

DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

FURNACE CREEK WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

PURPOSE AND NEED

The primary purpose of the Furnace Creek Water Management Plan is to develop an appropriate water collection method that will:

- 1. Provide a reliable quality and quantity of potable water for the National Park Service, Amfac resort facility (i.e., the Furnace Creek Inn and Ranch Resort), Timbisha Shoshone Indian tribe, and park visitors.
- 2. Promote the conservation of biological and cultural resource values in the Travertine-Texas Springs area.

The need for developing water management plan arises because the current system:

- 1. Experiences unpredictable fluctuations in the volume of water that is produced.
- 2. Produces a quality of water that does not meet state drinking water standards.
- 3. Resulted in the loss of some historic wetland and riparian habitat.
- 4. Provides limited flexibility for restoring habitat and species that are endemic to the Furnace Creek-Cow Creek area.
- 5. Was not designed to encourage water conservation practices.
- 6. Does not provide adequate quantification of the amount of water entering or leaving the potable water storage tanks.